

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): ~~An~~ A weather-resistant enclosure for storing contents, the enclosure comprising:

a base;

an outer lid segment;

at least one intermediate lid segment; and

a bottom lid segment; wherein, said lid segments are cascading as the enclosure is being opened, the bottom lid segment moves up into and nests within the at least one intermediate lid segment, which moves up into and nests within the outer lid segment, and wherein, as the enclosure is being closed, the bottom lid segment moves down out of the at least one intermediate lid segment, which moves down out of the outer lid segment, such that, when the enclosure is closed, for each adjacent pair of lid segments of the enclosure, a lower portion of an upper lid segment of the adjacent pair of lid segments overhangs an upper portion of a lower lid segment of the adjacent pair of lid segments, thereby preventing environmental debris and precipitation from entering the enclosure where adjacent lid segments meet.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (original): The enclosure of claim 1 wherein said enclosure may be collapsed to the size of the base and the outer lid segment.

Claim 4 (original): The enclosure of claim 1 further including means for securing the enclosure in a closed position.


Claim 5 (original): The enclosure of claim 1 further comprising a lock bracket attached to the base and a lock opening located in said bottom lid segment.

Claim 6 (original): The enclosure of claim 1 further including means for securing the enclosure in an open position.

Claim 7 (original): The enclosure of claim 1 further comprising a lock bracket attached to a lid segment and a lock opening located in said bottom lid segment.

Claim 8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (cancelled).

 Claim 10 (previously presented): The enclosure of claim 1 wherein said bottom lid segment includes a protruding lip.

Claim 11 (original): The enclosure of claim 10 wherein said protruding lip extends over a portion of said base.

Claim 12 (original): The enclosure of claim 10 wherein lifting of said protruding lip lifts the lid segments.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The enclosure of claim 12 wherein said base includes a pair of scallops and a front edge extending between the scallops for mating with said protruding lip.

Claim 14 (cancelled).

Claim 15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (original): The enclosure of claim 1 wherein the base includes a wall within the bottom lid segment.

Claim 17 (currently amended): ~~An~~ A weather-resistant enclosure for storing contents, the enclosure comprising:

a base;

an outer lid segment; ~~and~~

at least one intermediate lid segment, wherein, as the enclosure is being opened, the at least one intermediate lid segment moves up into and nests within the outer lid segment, and wherein, as the enclosure is being closed, the at least one intermediate lid segment moves down out of the outer lid segment, such that, when the enclosure is closed, for each adjacent pair of lid segments of the enclosure, a lower portion of an upper lid segment of the adjacent pair of lid segments overhangs an upper portion of a lower lid segment of the adjacent pair of lid segments, thereby preventing environmental debris and precipitation from entering the enclosure where adjacent lid segments meet; and

at least one support securing said outer lid segment in a vertical position, wherein said support is located within a channel in the outer lid segment.

Claim 18 (original): The enclosure of claim 17 further comprising a plurality of supports.

Claim 19 (cancelled).

Claim 20 (original): The enclosure of claim 17 further comprising a second support, each support located within a channel in the outer lid segment, each support being displaceable from a position generally entirely within the outer lid segment to a position within both the outer lid segment and the base.

Claim 21 (original): The enclosure of claim 20 wherein said supports are tubes with a generally rectangular cross-section.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The enclosure of claim 21 further comprising first and second tube brackets for the first and second tubes, wherein the first and second tube brackets are attached to at least one of the outer lid segment and the base.

Claim 23 (original): The enclosure of claim 20 wherein each support is displaceable by gravity.

Claim 24 (original): The enclosure of claim 20 wherein said supports are tubes each having a generally circular cross-section.

Claim 25 (currently amended): ~~An~~ A weather-resistant enclosure for storing contents, the enclosure comprising:

- a base;
- at least one axle;
- a bottom lid segment;
- an outer lid segment; and

~~cascading at least one intermediate lid segment-segments,~~ wherein each of the lid segments includes at least one axle bore through which the at least one axle is inserted such that a plurality of the lid segments rotate around the axle when the storage container is being opened from a closed position and when the storage container is being closed from an open position and wherein, as the enclosure is being opened, the bottom lid segment moves up into and nests within the at least one intermediate lid segment, which moves up into and nests within the outer lid segment, and wherein, as the enclosure is being closed, the bottom lid segment moves down out of the at least one intermediate lid segment, which moves down out of the outer lid segment, such that, when the enclosure is closed, for each adjacent pair of lid segments of the enclosure, a lower portion of an upper lid segment of the adjacent pair of lid segments overhangs an upper portion of a lower lid segment of the adjacent pair of lid segments, thereby preventing environmental debris and precipitation from entering the enclosure where adjacent lid segments meet.

b1
Claim 26 (original): The enclosure of claim 25 comprising a second axle, and each lid segment including a second axle bore, each axle bore being located on a side of the lid segment, the axle bores being aligned with each other, and the axle bores receiving the axles.

Claim 27 (original): The enclosure of claim 26 wherein the axles are flush with the outside of the enclosure and are secured on the inside of the enclosure with a cotter pin.
